

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SJR 710

April 4, 2012

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (016142): Deletes the first resolving clause of the resolution. Proposes amending Article VI, Section 3, of the Tennessee Constitution to require each judge of the Supreme Court to be appointed by the Governor based on merit and confirmed by the Legislature. Any judge seeking additional terms shall be subject to retention election by the qualified voters of the state. Notwithstanding Article VI, Section 4, judges of any intermediate appellate court shall be appointed, confirmed, and elected in the same manner as judges of the Supreme Court. Resolves that this amendment be referred to the 108th General Assembly and that this resolution be published in compliance with Article XI, Section 3, of the Tennessee Constitution.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$18,000/One-Time

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- A one-time cost of \$18,000 to the Secretary of State to print notice of the proposed amendment in statutorily designated newspapers as required by this resolution.
- According to the Secretary of State, the average statewide cost to publish the last three constitutional amendments was \$17,700.
- Because Article XI, Section 3, of the Constitution requires publication of the resolution before the next legislative election, this publication would occur in the spring of 2012.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/rct

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